

10/601,181

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filter 768 is typically sized to exclude particles less than about 75 % of the size excluded by filter 766, more typically, less than about 50 % of the size excluded by filter 766, and preferably, less than about 25% of the size excluded by filter 766.

11/8/07
Please replace the paragraph at page ¹⁵16, line 28 through page ¹⁶17, line 9 with the following amended paragraph:

Automated controller 701 directs wash fluid into the sampling conduit through at least one of the inlet and outlet valves 703 or 702, preferably outlet valve 702. A wash fluid can be one or more fluids, e.g. a gas, a vapor, a liquid, a supercritical fluid, a combination, and the like. For example, gases can include compressed air, oxygen, nitrogen, noble gases nitrous oxide, ethylene oxide, carbon dioxide, and the like; vapor can include steam or vaporized solvents; liquids can include water, aqueous solutions of buffers, antiseptics, detergents, and the like; solvents, e.g., organic solvents such as alcohols, ethers, ketones, polar aprotic solvents, and the like; and supercritical fluids can include carbon dioxide, water, and the like. Typically, the wash fluid is sterile. More than one fluid can be employed, for example, the apparatus can be flushed with an aqueous cleaning solution, steam, and then dry compressed air. Preferably, at least one wash fluid is antiseptic or sterilizing, i.e., is able to kill microorganisms.

Please replace the paragraph at page 16, lines 14 through 27 with the following amended paragraph:

Automated controller 701 is typically employed with the wash fluid to reduce bacterial count, macromolecule contamination, and/or other contamination to acceptable levels. An "acceptable level" of contamination is that level of contaminants that do not have a measurable adverse effect on the bioprocess site. For example, macromolecule contamination is typically reduced below the detection level of an analysis circuit coupled to the system. Contamination of any portion of the system can be measured using rinse water, e.g., by filling that portion with rinse water, letting stand at 20 °C for 1 minute, and then analyzing the rinse water for the